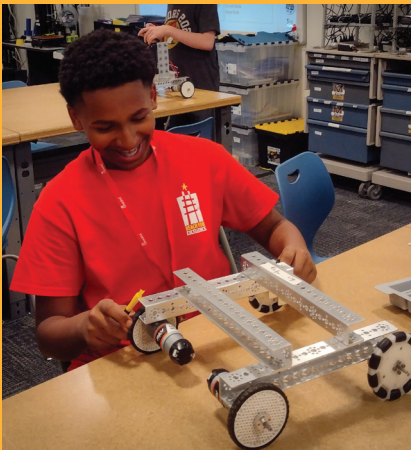


491
GRADUATES



4
Posse
Scholars

4 Gates
Millennium
Scholars

12
QuestbBridge
Scholars

OVER
8.5M
RAISED

ACCEPTANCES AT

192
COLLEGES

Acceptances at

35
Graduate Schools

Attended

110
High Schools



About Reach for Excellence

Reach for Excellence is a non-profit, classroom based, academic and leadership enrichment program. In 2001, this program was begun by the Marist Fathers and Brothers, who also operate Marist School in Atlanta, Georgia. Through its mix of academic, cultural, and community based experiences, this tuition-free program prepares talented, limited income middle school students to meet the challenges of college preparatory programs and high schools. Students, along with their families, commit to three six-week summer sessions and three years of Saturday sessions throughout the school year.



Dear Friends and Supporters of Reach for Excellence:

The following report on our 2021–2022 fiscal year shows that Reach for Excellence is well-positioned to continue providing high-quality academic enrichment for low-income youth, despite the challenges of the last two years.

Many students in the Metro Atlanta area experienced very little in-person learning during the pandemic.

Research now shows that the pandemic negatively impacted academic achievement, especially for low-income students in urban school districts. Reach for Excellence provided consistent instruction and stable, safe in-person learning environments throughout this time. Our teachers and staff met family needs, ensured access to devices, and were a source of social-emotional support to our students.

I am inspired by and grateful for the work we've done and your faithful giving, which made this possible.

Reach for Excellence graduates often share that they found their voice during the three years in our program. They learned to speak up, ask for help, and, most importantly, to imagine a place for themselves in our most competitive high school and college programs. Our alums' success in meaningful and accomplished careers demonstrates the value of the community formed each year in Reach for Excellence.

We can also see the power of community and collaboration in our annual list of donors, which includes corporations, foundations, families, and individuals who share a common desire to strengthen the education of students with limited resources.

We recently shared that our Executive Director, Karen Dessables, will retire after the Summer of 2023. We are immensely grateful for Karen's exemplary leadership over the last 17 years. She is leaving Reach for Excellence in a strong financial position and an educational program that exceeds standards of excellence among peer organizations. The Reach for Excellence Board of Directors looks forward to celebrating Karen's service throughout the year.

After a rigorous search led by current Board member Jennifer Gordon, we are thrilled to announce Dr. Linda Lehmil as the next Executive Director of Reach for Excellence. We are confident that her experience and passion for students will guide the program into a bright future.

We hope you will enjoy reading our 2021–2022 annual report. We also hope you will continue to support Reach for Excellence each year generously. Your contributions are vital to our student's success in high school, college, and beyond.

Warm regards,

Rocco Testani

Chairman of the Board

After a bustling Summer 2022 Registration Day of receiving schedules, getting the red, yellow, or white T-shirt, confirming transportation, and checking in with teachers, 81 smiling scholars were ready for their first day of Summer 2022 on June 6!



The energy and excitement were palpable as the six buses arrived, breakfast was eaten, and off to Period One. The daily schedule of academic classes of Language Arts, Social Studies, Algebra, and Computer Science and the grade level Book Clubs were all before lunch. Recreation classes after lunch included Sports, Board Games, Arts & Crafts, Tennis, and Robotics.

Seventeen field trips, one Therapy Dog visit, one guest speaker, one Open House, and multiple projects later, the six weeks came to an end with Cohort 2022 T's Stepping Up graduation ceremony on Saturday, July 23. Cohort 2022 honored their commitment to Reach for Excellence and were ready

for a short summer break before heading off to Chamblee, Cristo Rey, DeKalb Early College Academy, Galloway, Gwinnett School of Math, Science & Technology, Holy Innocents', Lakeside, Langston Hughes, Marist, Midtown, North Atlanta, Pace, South Gwinnett, and Tucker high schools.

Cohort 2018 P – High School Class of 2022 accomplishments include four QuestBridge Scholars attending Davidson, Princeton, The University of Chicago, and Washington University – St. Louis and three Tim Cambias Memorial College Scholarships to attend Cornell, Emory, and FAMU. New colleges added to Reach's list include George Mason University, The University of Chicago, the University of Iowa, Washington University – St. Louis, and Western Carolina University.

Reach for Excellence graduates, committed to the climb, earned college degrees in the fields of Biochemistry, Biology, Business Administration, Computer Science, Economics, Environmental Sciences, Health Promotion, International Studies, Sociology, Spanish, Psychology, and Public Health!

At the end of Reach for Excellence's Summer 2023 program, I will join Cohort 2023 U and graduate with them. My first graduating class was Cohort 2006 D! I have been so blessed and fortunate to work with amazing and talented middle school students, dedicated teachers, an awesome Administrative Team, and a very supportive Board of Directors. The Society of Mary created Reach for Excellence in 2001 and has always believed in the mission of the program and the impact it could have on the lives of underserved, talented middle school students. The Marist School community has helped me in so many ways, allowing me to direct the program as smoothly as possible – the Business Office, the tips from Administration, faculty, and staff, the volunteers, and the list goes on!

This program and all the success you read about are a direct result of your generosity, your support, and your dedication to Reach for Excellence. I cannot thank you enough.

With much gratitude,
Karen A. Dessables
Executive Director



Announcing Reach for Excellence's New Executive Director

The Society of Mary and the Reach for Excellence Board of Directors are happy to announce that Dr. Linda Lehmil will be the next Executive Director of Reach for Excellence beginning July 1, 2023.

Dr. Lehmil is currently teaching AP and other levels of French at Marist School. Dr. Lehmil brings 18+ years of teaching experience at the middle school, high school, and college levels as well as years of experience in the non-profit world. Dr. Lehmil's non-profit experience includes research, monitoring, and evaluation of global programs in Hong Kong, Nepal, and the United States.

Dr. Lehmil is a first-generation college graduate who holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in French Studies from Tulane University as well as an M.Ed in Comparative & International Education & International Development (CIED) from Hong Kong University. Her B.A. and M.A. in Teaching Classic French and French as a Foreign Language were earned from Université Lumière Lyon II in France.

As the Share the Journey Club Moderator at Marist School, Dr. Lehmil continues to work with immigrant and underserved communities, guiding projects that mirror Reach for Excellence's mission - to empower determined learners and expand their possibilities in the classroom, in the community, and in life.

Dr. Lehmil is excited and ready to embrace her passion and lead Reach for Excellence as its next Executive Director.

SPONSORS

August 1, 2021–July 31, 2022

Star Society

\$30,000 and above

Empowering Reach for Excellence Scholars to achieve the highest levels of success in high school, college, and beyond.

Barbara and Jim MacGinnitie
The Society of Mary
Truist

Stepping Up Society

\$15,000 – \$29,999

Funding the equivalent of one student's participation in the full three-year Reach for Excellence academic enrichment program, from their first Saturday Session to our Stepping Up Ceremony each Summer.

John Bourbonnais and
Barbara Nye
Katherine John Murphy Foundation
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and Georgia Statewide
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Nordson Corporation Foundation
The Patterson Family Foundation
UPS Foundation
Yardi Systems

Ladder Society

\$10,000 – \$14,999

Funding the equivalent of two or more Reach Scholars' participation, forming cohorts of like-minded peers committed to climbing the pathway to academic achievement.

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Brewster
Ms. Natalie Smith Childs
The Edward Colston Foundation
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The Sartain-Lanier Family Foundation
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Scholar Society

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Funding the equivalent of one Reach Scholar's participation in the Reach for Excellence academic enrichment program and more.

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\$250 – \$499

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Ms. Grace Uttarotai '04 B
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Ms. Grace Uttarotai '04 B
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Walsh

Tomorrow's Scholars Circle

Recognizing supporters who have included Reach for Excellence in their estate plans, empowering Reach Scholars of future generations.

Mrs. Marie Crean
Barbara and Jim MacGinnitie
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M. Raeber
Ms. Eva Triege

Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets

	Net assets without donor restrictions	Net assets with donor restrictions	Total
Public Support and Revenue			
Contributions	\$447,541	\$107,306	\$584,847
In-Kind Contributions	\$141,775	-	\$141,775
Investment Loss	(28,378)	(46,796)	(75,174)
Miscellaneous Income	\$34,603	-	\$34,603
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$117,151	(117,151)	-
Total Revenue and Support	\$742,692	(56,641)	\$686,051
Expenses			
Program Services - Mission	\$443,632	-	\$443,632
Management and Administration	\$134,714	-	\$134,714
Fundraising	\$91,842	-	\$91,842
Total Expenses	\$670,188	-	\$670,188
Changes in Net Assets	\$72,504	(56,641)	\$15,863
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$262,426	\$726,021	\$988,447
Net Assets, End of Year	\$334,930	\$669,380	\$1,004,310

Assets

Current Assets	
Cash	\$223,390
Unconditional Promises to Give, No Allowance Necessary	\$45,982
Investments	\$682,498
Prepays and Other	\$2,385
Property and Equipment, Net	\$70,188
Total Assets	\$1,024,443

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$15,051
Due to Marist School	\$5,082
Total Liabilities	\$20,133
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restriction	
Undesignated	\$125,253
Board Designated	\$209,677
	\$334,930
With Donor Restriction	\$669,380
Total Net Assets	\$1,004,310
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,024,443

Graduates have attended the following secondary schools:

Arabia Mountain High School
 Archer High School
 Atlanta Girls School
 Atlanta International School
 Banneker High School
 Ben Franklin Academy
 Berkmar High School
 Blair Academy, NJ
 Brookwood High School
 Carver Early College
 Cedar Grove High School
 Chamblee Charter High School
 Chapel Hill High School
 Charles Drew Senior Academy
 Chattahoochee High School
 Collins Hill High School
 Columbia High School
 Columbia High School, CO
 Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School
 Cross Keys High School
 Darlington School
 Decatur High School
 DeKalb Early College Academy
 DeKalb School of the Arts
 Druid Hills High School
 Duluth High School
 Dunwoody High School
 Episcopal High School, VA
 Fayette County High School

Frederick Douglass High School
 Grady High School
 Grayson High School
 Gwinnett School of Math,
 Science & Tech.
 Hapeville Charter Career Academy
 Heritage High School
 Highville Change Academy, CT
 Holy Innocents' Episcopal School
 Horizon School
 Irondequoit High School, NY
 KIPP Atlanta Collegiate
 Lakeside High School
 Langston Hughes High School
 Lanier High School
 Lebanon High School, TN
 Lithia Springs High School
 Lovejoy High School
 Marietta High School
 Marist School
 Martin Luther King High School
 Maynard Jackson High School
 Mays High School
 McComb High School, AL
 Meadowcreek High School
 Midtown High School
 Miller Grove High School
 Morrow High School
 Mount Vernon Presbyterian School

New Schools of Carver High School
 Norcross High School
 North Atlanta High School
 North Gwinnett High School
 North Springs High School
 Notre Dame Academy
 Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School
 Pace Academy
 Pace Academy
 Parkview High School
 Paul Duke STEM High School
 Peachtree Ridge High School
 Peddie School, NJ
 Phillips Academy, MA
 Phillips Exeter Academy, NH
 Providence Christian Academy
 Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School
 Riverwood International Charter School
 Rockdale County High School
 Rockdale Magnet School for
 Science & Tech.
 Roswell High School
 Salem Academy, NC
 School Without Walls, Washington D.C.
 Shawnee Mission North High School, KS
 Shiloh High School
 South Atlanta High School
 South Cobb High School, Magnet
 South Gwinnett High School
 Southwest DeKalb High School
 Sprayberry High School
 St. Andrew's - Sewanee School, TN
 St. Pius X Catholic High School
 Stephenson High School
 Stockbridge High School
 The Asheville School, NC
 The Galloway School
 The Lawrenceville School, NJ
 The Lovett School
 The New School
 The Paideia School
 The Walker School
 The Westminster Schools
 Tri-Cities High School
 Tucker High School
 Wesleyan School
 Westlake High School
 Westside High School, Macon
 Wheeler High School
 Woodward Academy



Graduates have been accepted to the following graduate schools:

American University
 Boston College – School of Law
 Brenau University
 Brown University
 Christian Brothers University
 Clayton State University
 Columbia College
 Dornsife School of Public Health,
 Drexel University
 Elms College
 Emory University – Rollins School
 of Public Health
 Fort Valley State University
 George Washington University

Georgetown University
 Georgia Southern University
 Georgia State University
 Harvard Law School
 Howard University College of Medicine
 John Marshall School of Law
 Medical College of Georgia
 Mercer University
 Mercer University, Walter F. George
 School of Law
 Midland University
 New York University - Tisch School of the Arts
 North Carolina Central University –
 School of Law

Ohio State University College of Medicine
 Stetson University College of Law
 Texas Southern University
 Tulane School of Public Health
 University of California, San Francisco –
 Dental School
 University of Georgia - School of Pharmacy
 University of Georgia School of
 Veterinary Medicine
 University of Pennsylvania – Dental School
 University of Pennsylvania
 Wake Forest University

Graduates have been accepted to the following colleges and universities:

Agnes Scott College
 Alabama A & M University
 Alabama College of
 Osteopathic Medicine
 Albany State University
 American University
 Armstrong Atlantic State University
 Atlanta Metropolitan State College
 Atlanta Technical College
 Auburn University
 Bard College, NY
 Barnard College
 Baylor University
 Benedict College
 Berry College
 Boston College
 Brandeis University
 Brown University
 California Institute of the Arts
 Carleton College, MN
 Centre College
 Clark Atlanta University
 Clark University, MA
 Clayton State University
 Clemson University
 Cleveland State Community College
 Colgate University
 College of Charleston
 College of Wooster
 Colorado College
 Columbia College of Chicago
 Columbia University
 Cornell University
 Cumberland University
 Dartmouth College
 Davidson College
 Dayton University
 Delgado Community College, LA
 DeVry Institute of Technology
 DeVry University, IL
 Drexel University
 East Georgia State College
 Eastern Michigan University
 Eckerd College
 Elon University
 Emory University
 Emory University at Oxford
 Escuela de Aviacion, Mexico
 Everest Institute
 Florida A & M University
 Florida Institute of Technology
 Fort Valley State University
 Furman University
 George Mason University
 George Washington University
 Georgetown College, KY
 Georgia College and State University
 Georgia Gwinnett College
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Georgia Middle State University
 Georgia Military College
 Georgia Perimeter College
 Georgia Piedmont Technical College
 Georgia Southern University
 Georgia Southwestern State University

Georgia State University
 Grambling State University
 Guilford College
 Gwinnett Technical College
 Hamline University
 Hampton University
 Harvard University
 Haverford College, PA
 Hinds Community College, MS
 Hofstra University
 Houston Community College, TX
 Howard University
 Huntingdon College, AL
 Iowa State University
 Jacksonville State University
 Jacksonville University
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice
 Johns Hopkins University
 Johnson and Wales University, RI
 Kennesaw State University
 Louisiana State University
 Loyola University - New Orleans
 Loyola University Chicago
 Lycoming College, PA
 Macalester College, MN
 Marquette University
 Maryland Institute College of Art
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Mercer University
 Miami University, Ohio
 Middle Georgia State University
 Middle Tennessee State University
 Midland University
 Milligan College
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 North Georgia College & University
 Northwestern University
 Notre Dame University
 Oglethorpe University
 Ohio State University
 Ohio Wesleyan University
 Old Dominion University
 Philander Smith College
 Pitzer College
 Pomona College, CA
 Presbyterian College, SC
 Princeton University
 Purdue University
 Queens University of Charlotte, NC
 Reinhardt University
 Rhodes College
 Rice University
 Rochester Institute of Technology
 Rollins College
 Saint Augustine's University
 Saint Leo University
 Saint Mary's College
 Salem College
 Samford University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 School of the Arts Institute of Chicago
 Shenzhen University, China
 Shorter University

Simmons College
 South Carolina State University
 Southern Polytechnic State University
 Spelman College
 Spring Hill College
 St. Augustine's University, NC
 St. John's University
 St. Leo University
 St. Louis University
 Stanford University
 Stillman College
 Strayer University, Washington D.C.
 Swarthmore College
 Syracuse University
 Taledaga College
 Temple University
 Tennessee State University
 Texas A & M University
 Tulane University
 Tuskegee University
 Union College, NY
 United States Air Force Academy
 University of Alabama -
 Tuscaloosa
 University of Arizona
 University of Chicago
 University of Dayton
 University of Georgia
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 University of North Georgia
 University of North Texas
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Richmond
 University of Southern California
 University of Tampa
 University of Tennessee, Knoxville
 University of the South
 University of West Georgia
 Valdosta State University
 Vanderbilt University
 Virginia Commonwealth University
 Virginia State University
 Wake Forest University
 Washington and Lee University
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